

August 14, 2009

Mr. Dennis Rankin  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
RUS Engineering and Environmental Staff  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571

Dear Mr. Rankin:

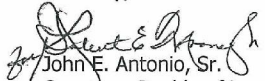
RE: Proposed San Luis Vally-Calument-Comanche Transmission Project in Southern Colorado

The Pueblo of Laguna appreciates your consideration to comment on the possible interest your project may have on any traditional or cultural properties.

**T-001-001** The Pueblo of Laguna has determined that the undertaking WILL NOT have a significant impact at this time. However, in the event that any new archaeological sites are discovered and any new artifacts are removed, we request to be notified to review items. We also request photographs of items. According to our unpublished migration history, our ancestors journeyed from the north through that area and settled for periods of time before traveling to our present location. Therefore, the possibilities of some findings may exist.

We thank you and your staff for the information provided.

Sincerely,

  
John E. Antonio, Sr.  
Governor, Pueblo of Laguna

#### **T-001-001: NEPA Process (In Review)**

Your email/letter/comment form has been received and your comment noted. Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. has requested financial assistance from the USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS), for their anticipated ownership interest in the proposed San Luis Valley – Calumet - Comanche Transmission Project. RUS has determined that funding Tri-State's ownership interest is a federal action requiring analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

RUS is the lead federal agency for NEPA, and will consult with other federal, state, and local agencies, and affiliated tribes as well as adhere to applicable regulations.

Additional information regarding the NEPA process can be found on the RUS project website at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/envIRON.htm>. The Environmental Impact Statement is anticipated to be completed in late 2010 and will be available at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm>.